

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2017/4095/P	Jason Bartfeld & family	3 The Old Court House North End Way 3 The Old Court House Norht End Way	23/08/2017 14:05:15	OBJLETTE R	Application 2017/4095/P Change of use from gym to office use. Formal Objection

We are the immediate neighbours to this site and object in the strongest terms to this application.

We, and our three children (co-signatories below), use the gym on a regular basis. The same is true of the other residents of the Old Court House and most of the residents of Jack Straw's castle.

Having spoken in detail to the operator of the gym, it is wholly untrue and misleading to suggest that the gym is not financially viable. In fact, the opposite is the case and the ongoing business is a successful one. The previous operator mismanaged the business, but the new owners have successfully engaged with the local community and the gym is constantly busy.

The gym causes no disruption whatsoever to the neighbouring residents and provides an important and significant amenity. It is a very different operation from the other fitness operations in the area and serves a specific need for high quality personal training in a small and quiet environment. The gym has been particularly attractive to those who for personal reasons prefer quiet surroundings and discretion, including those with specific physical issues, older clients, those recovering from injury and parents who prefer their children to exercise in a small nurturing environment.

Significantly, this is the only fitness centre in the area that offers classes for children. These are extremely well attended and provide a unique amenity.

It is simply nonsensical to suggest (as the applicant does) that the gym does not offer an important local amenity. It is a unique fitness space in the area, offering unique and important services.

Having a gym adjoining and beneath residential property is plainly appropriate. By contrast, the locality is completely unsuited for office space. It sits in a wholly residential area. There is plenty of empty and available office space available in the retail/commercial centre of Hampstead Village and on the Finchley Road, all within 0.5 miles.

We sincerely hope that the Committee will reject this application.

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					Jason Bartfeld QC Annabel Bartfeld Jessica San Zak Bartfeld Rafi Bartfeld
